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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/678,252	10/03/2000	Karl L. Ginter	7451-0001-15	5246

22852   7590   08/28/2003

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EXAMINER
DARROW, JUSTIN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2132	12

DATE MAILED: 08/28/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/678,252	GINTER ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Justin T. Darrow	2132	

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
   closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 91-112* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 91-112* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *03 October 2000* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
   application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

2)☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) *4,7,9* .   6)☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-112 have been presented for examination. Claims 2-90 have been canceled and

new claims 91-112 have been added in a preliminary amendment filed 10/03/2000. Claims 1 and

91-112 have been examined.

Priority

2.   Acknowledgment is made that the instant application is a continuation of Application No.

09/328,671, filed 06/09/1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,389,402 B1, which is a continuation of

Application No. 08/964,333, filed 11/04/1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,982,891 A, which is a

continuation of Application No. 08/388,107, filed 02/13/1995, now abandoned.

Drawings

3.   The drawings filed on 10/03/2000 are acceptable as indicated on the "Notice of

Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review," PTO-948, attached to this Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the
> subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.   '

5.   Claims 97-99 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for

failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as

the invention.

Claim 97 recites the limitation "the audit information" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. This rejection can be overcome by deleting "audit" in line 1 and replacing with --audit-related--.

Claim 98 recites the limitation "the audit information" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. This rejection can be overcome by deleting "audit" in line 1 and replacing with --audit-related--.

Claim 99 recites the limitation "the audit information" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. This rejection can be overcome by deleting "audit" in line 1 and replacing with --audit-related--.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the

reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA

35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

(f) he did not himself invent the subject matter sought to be patented.

7.   Claims 1, 91-103, and 108-112 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated

by Callais et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,790,700 A.

As per claim 1, Callais et al. describe a secure component-based operating process

including:

(a) retrieving at least one component (see column 5, lines 4-8; allowing a subscription TV

program to be previewed on a predetermined channel);

(b) retrieving a record that specifies a component assembly (see column 5, lines 22-26;

figure 1, item 43; generating a pay TV request signal);

(c) checking the component and record for validity (see column 5, lines 57-60; figure 1,

items 16 and 17; the pay TV request signal will be determined to see if the subscriber is one of

the persons on its restricted list of persons authorized to receive the requested program);

(d) using the component to form the component assembly in accordance with the record

(see column 6, lines 4-11; figure 1, items 31 and 27; processing the channel data so that the

converter can be placed in the "on" condition); and

(e) performing a process based at least in part on the component assembly (see column 6,

lines 4-11; figure 1, item 25; allowing the subscriber to receive the restricted program).

As per claim 91, Callais et al. illustrate a method of using a governed item at a processing

arrangement including:

receiving a first rule at the processing arrangement (see column 5, lines 4-10; figure 1,
items 16, 25, and 31; transmitting a preview enable command downstream to the control circuit
to allow a subscription TV program to be previewed on a predetermined channel);

receiving a second rule at the processing arrangement, being received independently from
the first rule and from the governed item (see column 5, lines 14-18; figure 1, item 41; the
subscriber inserting a key in a key control unit which enables subscription TV request); and

at the processing arrangement, employing the first rule and the second rule to securely
govern at least one aspect of access to and use of the governed item (see column 5, lines 36-40;
figure 1, items 45 and 17; combining the pay TV request signal and channel code and
transmitting the combined signal to initiate a downstream signal to enable viewing), and

storing audit-related information relating to the access and use (see column 5, line 41;
confirming that the subscriber has been billed).

As per claim 92, Callais et al. further point out:

the first rule is indirectly received from a first entity (see column 5, lines 4-10; figure 1,
items 16, 21, 25, and 31; the local processing center (LPC) transmitting a preview enable
command downstream through a cable drop line); and

the second rule is indirectly received from a second entity different from the first entity
(see column 5, lines 14-18; figure 1, item 41; the subscriber inserting a key in a key control unit
which enables subscription TV request).

As per claim 93, Callais et al. additionally mention:

receiving the governed item along with the first rule (see column 5, lines 4-10; figure 1,

items 17, 21, and 25; transmitting the preview enable command with the subscription TV

program).

8.   Claims 1, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and (f) as being anticipated by Shear, U.S.

Patent No. 5,050,213 A.

As per claim 1, Shear depicts a secure component-based operating process including:

(a) retrieving at least one component (see column 11, lines 34-36; figure 1, blocks 100

and 200; figure 2, block 106; loading one or more blocks of the stored database information;

(b) retrieving a record that specifies a component assembly (see column 11, lines 28-33;

figure 1, blocks 100 and 200; figure 2, block 102; reading index information to ascertain which

database blocks contain requested information);

(c) checking the component (see column 12, lines 26-29; figure 1, block 300; measuring

the amount and type of information) and record for validity (see column 11, lines 43-50; figure 1,

block 200; figure 2, block 102; browsing though the index to see if it refers to requested data);

(d) using the component to form the component assembly in accordance with the record

(see column 12, lines 47-52; figure 1, blocks 300 and 200; decrypting information specified in

the index information); and

(e) performing a process based at least in part on the component assembly (see column

12, lines 47-52; figure 1, blocks 300 and 200; information to be displayed, stored, printed, or

communicated).

As per claim 91, Shear describes a method of using a governed item at a processing

arrangement including:

receiving a first rule at the processing arrangement (see column 11, lines 36-42; figure 1,

blocks 200 and 300; figure 2, block 108c; sending the decryption key field to the decoder/biller);

receiving a second rule at the processing arrangement, being received independently from

the first rule and from the governed item (see column 19, lines 15-22; figure 3, block 314;

permitting the user to store in the decoder/biller ceilings on database usage or cost of usage based

on usage, period of time, and/or type of information which can be decrypted); and

at the processing arrangement, employing the first rule and the second rule to securely

govern at least one aspect of access to and use of the governed item (see column 11, lines 8-14;

column 12, lines 47-52; figure 1, block 300; figure 2, blocks 108b and 108c; decrypting the

information with the decryption key; see column 19, lines 22-26; figure 4a, block 410; until the

total of decrypted data exceeds the user-specified parameter value), and

storing audit-related information relating to the access or use (see column 19, lines 22-26;

figure 1, block 200; figure 4a, block 416; keeping a running total of the parameters that the user

has specified).

As per claim 92, Shear further mentions:

the first rule is directly and indirectly received from a first entity (see column 11, lines

36-42; figure 1, blocks 200 and 300; figure 2, block 108c; sending the decryption key field to the

decoder/biller; column 11, lines 23-27; where the data communications pathway between the

host computer and the decoder/biller may be a shared data bus or a network); and

the second rule is directly or indirectly received from a second entity different from the

first entity (see column 19, lines 15-22; figure 3, block 314; permitting the user to store in the

decoder/biller ceilings on database usage or cost of usage based on usage, period of time, and/or

type of information which can be decrypted).

As per claim 93, Shear then points out:

receiving the governed item along with the first rule (see column 11, lines 36-42; figure

1, blocks 200 and 300; figure 2, blocks 108 b and 108c; sending the blocks of information along

with the decryption key field to the decoder/biller).

As per claim 94, Shear additionally delineates:

at least a portion of the governed item is received in an encrypted state (see column 11,

lines 34-42; figure 2, blocks 106, 108b, and 108c; loading one or more blocks of the stored

database information consisting of encrypted fields and decryption keys); and

employing the first rule and the second rule to securely govern at least one aspect of

access to and use of the governed item includes decrypting at least a portion of the governed item

(see column 11, lines 8-14; column 12, lines 47-52; figure 1, block 300; figure 2, blocks 108b

and 108c; decrypting the information with the decryption key; see column 19, lines 22-26; figure

4a, block 410; until the total of decrypted data exceeds the user-specified parameter value).

As per claim 95, Shear depicts a method for using a governed item including:

(a) encrypting at least a portion of the governed item (see column 10, lines 56-57; figure 2, block 108b; encrypted database information fields);

(b) storing the governed item in a memory of the a first processing arrangement at a first site (see column 11, lines 34-36; figure 1, block 200; figure 2, blocks 106 and 108b; controlling the host computer to load one or more of the encrypted data blocks);

(c) receiving a first rule set made up of one or more rules at the first processing arrangement, received directly and indirectly from a second processing arrangement located at a second site located remotely from the first site (see column 11, lines 34-42; figure 1, blocks 100 and 200; figure 2, blocks 106 and 108c; loading blocks including decryption key fields; column 19, lines 31-39; where the customer site is located remotely from the storage medium);

(d) at the first processing arrangement, decrypting at least a portion of the governed item, being governed by one or more of the first rule set rules (see column 9, lines 30-33; figure 1, blocks 200 and 300; the decoder/biller is either a hardware component apart of or computer software executing on the host computer; see column 11, lines 8-14; column 12, lines 47-52; figure 1, block 300; figure 2, blocks 108b and 108c; decrypting the information with the decryption key);

(e) at the first processing arrangement, making a use of the governed item, being governed at least in part by one or more of the first rule set rules (see column 12, lines 47-52; figure 1, blocks 300 and 200; figure 2, blocks 108b and 108c; decrypting the information with the decryption key for display, storage, printing, telecommunications, or otherwise available to the user); and

(f) at the first processing arrangement, storing audit-related information relating to the use of the governed item, being governed at least in part by one or more of the first rule set rules (see column 12, lines 29-34; figure 1, block 300; storing all necessary billing and usage information in a non-volatile memory device).

As per claim 96, Shear further discusses:

(g) using at least a portion of the audit-related information to determine a payment (see column 12, lines 29-34; storing all necessary billing information).

As per claim 97, Shear also points out:

the audit-related information includes payment information (see column 19, lines 26-30; budgeting database use to an amount selected for payment).

As per claim 98, Shear then suggests:

the audit-related information includes identification information (see column 19, lines 15-26; keeping a running total on the type of information that can be decrypted).

As per claim 99, Shear next specifies:

The audit-related information includes information at least in part identifying the first processing arrangement and a user of the first the first processing arrangement (see column 19, lines 26-30; permitting a user to budget his database use on the host computer).

As per claim 100, Shear moreover elaborates:

(g) receiving a second rule set made up of one or more rules at the first processing

arrangement, being received separately from the first rule set (see column 19, lines 15-22; figure

3, block 314; permitting the user to store in the decoder/biller ceilings on database usage or cost

of usage based on usage, period of time, and/or type of information which can be decrypted).

As per claim 101, Shear also points out:

the second rule set is directly or indirectly received from a third processing arrangement

located at a third site remote from the first and from the second site (see column 19, lines 28-30;

permitting an organization to directly limit the cost of database access by employees to an

amount selected by the organization; see column 19, lines 12-15; by programming parameters to

limit the user's use of database information).

As per claim 102, Shear further discusses:

(h) using a rule from the second rule set to at least in part govern an aspect of access to

and use of the governed item (see column 11, lines 8-14; column 12, lines 47-52; figure 1, block

300; figure 2, blocks 108b and 108c; decrypting the information with the decryption key; see

column 19, lines 22-26; figure 4a, block 410; until the total of decrypted data exceeds the user-

specified parameter value).

As per claim 103, Shear then suggests:

using the second rule includes at least in part governing an attempt to transfer at least a

portion of the governed data item from the first data processing arrangement to a different

processing arrangement (see column 19, lines 22-26; ceasing decrypting database information if

the total exceeds the user-specified parameter value; column 12, lines 47-52; to prevent returning

decrypted information for telecommunications).

As per claim 108, Shear delineates a method including:

storing a first control in a memory of a processing arrangement (see column 19, lines 15-

22; figure 3, block 314; permitting the user to store in the decoder/biller ceilings on database

usage or cost of usage based on usage, period of time, and/or type of information which can be

decrypted);

at the processing arrangement, receiving a second control (see column 11, lines 36-42;

figure 1, blocks 200 and 300; figure 2, block 108c; sending the decryption key field to the

decoder/biller);

using the first and second control to at least in part govern the decryption of at least a

portion of the data item (see column 11, lines 8-14; column 12, lines 47-52; figure 1, block 300;

figure 2, blocks 108b and 108c; decrypting the information with the decryption key; see column

19, lines 22-26; figure 4a, block 410; until the total of decrypted data exceeds the user-specified

parameter value); and

using the first control and second control to govern an aspect of access to and use of the

data item, including requiring that audit-related information be stored (see column 19, lines 22-

26; figure 1, block 200; figure 4a, block 416; keeping a running total of the parameters that the

user has specified; see column 19, lines 15-22; figure 3, block 314; in accordance with the

ceilings on database usage or cost of usage based on usage, period of time, and/or type of

information which can be decrypted).

As per claim 109, Shear also points out:

the stored information includes information relating to payment for the access or use of

the data item (see column 19, lines 26-30; budgeting database use to an amount selected for

payment).

As per claim 110, Shear depicts a method of controlling an operation at a processing

arrangement including a memory, a removable memory reader and a communications port,

including:

storing a first digital control in the memory (see column 11, lines 36-42; figure 1, blocks

200 and 300; figure 2, block 108c; sending the decryption key fields to the decoder/biller for

storage for processing);

inserting a removable memory into the removable memory reader (see column 9, lines 4-

11; figure 1, blocks 100 and 200; predefined database(s) stored on a storage medium are read by

a host computer; see column 9, lines 38-46; figure 1, block 100; where the database storage

medium is an optical disk);

detecting a governed item stored in the removable memory, being at least in part

encrypted (see column 11, lines 28-33; figure 2, blocks 102 and 106; reading the index

information stored in the medium to ascertain which database blocks contain information

specified by the user request; column 10, lines 56-57; figure 2, block 108b; stored in encrypted

database information fields);

receiving a second digital control through the communications port (see column 19, lines

15-22; figure 3, block 314; permitting the user to store in the decoder/biller ceilings on database

usage or cost of usage based on usage, period of time, and/or type of information which can be

decrypted);

using at least a portion of the governed item, being governed at least in part by the first

digital control and the second digital control (see column 11, lines 8-14; column 12, lines 47-52;

figure 1, block 300; figure 2, blocks 108b and 108c; decrypting the information with the

decryption key; see column 19, lines 22-26; figure 4a, block 410; until the total of decrypted data

exceeds the user-specified parameter value); and

storing audit-related information relating to the use of the governed item (see column 19,

lines 22-26; figure 1, block 200; figure 4a, block 416; keeping a running total of the parameters

that the user has specified; see column 19, lines 15-22; figure 3, block 314; in accordance with

the ceilings on database usage or cost of usage based on usage, period of time, and/or type of

information which can be decrypted).

As per claim 111, Shear further specifies:

that the removable memory is an optical disk (see column 9, lines 38-46; figure 1, block

100; where the database storage medium is an optical disk).

As per claim 112, Shear additionally points out:

that the second digital control is directly received from a second processing arrangement

located remotely from the first processing arrangement (see column 19, lines 15-22; figure 3,

block 314; permitting the user to store in the decoder/biller ceilings on database usage or cost of

usage based on usage, period of time, and/or type of information which can be decrypted).

9.   Claims 1, 91-103, and 108-112 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(f) because the applicant

did not invent the claimed subject matter. Only one of the applicants of the instant application is

the sole inventor of Shear, U.S. Patent No. 5,050,213 A. See MPEP § 2137.

10.   Claims 104-107 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Stefik et al.,

U.S. Patent No. 5,638,443 A.

As per claim 104, Stefik et al. describe a method for performing a commercial process

including:

at a processing arrangement located at a first site, receiving a first communication

including a first programming module and first authentication information, being directly or

indirectly received from a second site located remotely from the first site (see column 36, lines

22-27; sending to the server a message to initiate a play transaction, including the work to be

played, the identity of the player being used, and the file data of the work);

at the processing arrangement, using the first authentication information to at least in part

authenticate the first programming module (see column 36, lines 28-31; the server checking the

validity of the player identification with the player specification in the right);

at the processing arrangement, receiving a second communication including a second

programming module and second authentication information, being indirectly received from a

third site located remotely from the first site and from the second site (see column 36, lines 32-

33; the repository perform common opening transaction steps for registration; see column 27,

lines 32-48; figure 16, steps 1602 and 1603; registration message comprised of an identifier of a

master repository, an identification certificate for repository-1 encrypted by the master

repository, and encrypted random registration identifier);

at the processing arrangement, using the second authentication information to at least in

part authenticate the second programming module (see column 27, lines 57-59; figure 16, step

1608; checking the extracted repository identifier against a "hotlist" of compromised document

repositories); and

at the processing arrangement, executing programming from the first programming

module (see column 36, lines 36-37; playing the work contents according to the request) and

programming from the second programming module (see column 28, lines 39-43; playing the

work contents upon successful completion of the registration transaction), the execution

contributing to the performance of a commercial process including:

(1) using a governed item (see column 36, line 36-37; playing the work contents

according to the request); and

(2) storing audit-related information relating to the governed item use (see column 29,

lines 55-61; listing charges from the parts of the digital work played).

As per claim 105, Stefik et al. further embody:

the governed item including digitally-encoded audio (see column 36, lines 8-10; digital

work including audio); and

rendering at least a portion of the digitally-encoded audio through an output device (see

column 36, lines 8-10; playing the digital work on a transducer).

As per claim 106, Stefik et al. disclose a method of governing an operation at a

processing arrangement, including:

(a) at the processing arrangement, receiving a first control directly or indirectly from a

first party (see column 36, lines 22-27; sending to the server a message to initiate a play

transaction, including the work to be played, the identity of the player being used, and the file

data of the work);

(b) at the processing arrangement, receiving a second control indirectly from a second

party (see column 36, lines 32-33; the repository perform common opening transaction steps for

registration; see column 27, lines 32-48; figure 16, steps 1602 and 1603; registration message

comprised of an identifier of a master repository, an identification certificate for repository-1

encrypted by the master repository, and encrypted random registration identifier);

(c) at the processing arrangement, using the first control (see column 36, lines 36-37;

playing the work contents according to the request) and second control (see column 28, lines 39-

43; playing the work contents upon successful completion of the registration transaction) to at

least in part govern a use of an item;

(d) storing a first type of audit-related information relating to the use of the item, required

by the first control (see column 29, lines 55-61; listing charges from the parts of the digital work

played); and

(e) storing a second type of audit-related information relating to the use of the item,

required by the second control (see column 29, lines 55-61; assigning a charge in accordance to

the identities of the repositories in the transaction).

As per claim 107, Stefik et al. specify:

that the information in step (e) includes at least in part identifying both the processing

arrangement (see column 29, lines 55-61; assigning a charge based on the repositories in the

transaction) and the user of the processing arrangement (see column 30, lines 5-10; a report-

charges transaction between a personal credit server and a billing clearinghouse, charging a

personal credit card).

Telephone Inquiry Contacts

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Justin T. Darrow whose telephone number is (703) 305-3872 and

whose electronic mail address is justin.darrow@uspto.gov. The examiner can normally be
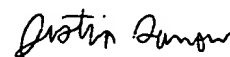
reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Gilberto Barrón, Jr., can be reached at (703) 305-1830.

The fax numbers for Formal or Official faxes to Technology Center 2100 are (703) 305-0040 and (703) 746-7239. Draft or Informal faxes for this Art Unit can also be submitted to (703) 746-7240. In order for a formal paper transmitted by fax to be entered into the application file, the paper and/or fax cover sheet must be signed by a representative for the applicant. Faxed formal papers for application file entry, such as amendments adding claims, extensions of time, and statutory disclaimers for which fees must be charged before entry, must be transmitted with an authorization to charge a deposit account to cover such fees. It is also recommended that the cover sheet for the fax of a formal paper have printed "**OFFICIAL FAX**". Formal papers transmitted by fax usually require three business days for entry into the application file and consideration by the examiner. Formal or Official faxes including amendments after final rejection (37 CFR 1.116) should be submitted to (703) 746-7238 for expedited entry into the application file. It is further recommended that the cover sheet for the fax containing an amendment after final rejection have printed not only "**OFFICIAL FAX**" but also "**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**".

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

August 25, 2003

JUSTIN T. DARROW
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100